

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

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Latin America

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THATCHER SAID SOFTENING STANCE; UK LOSSES NOTED

PY062056 Buenos Aires TELAM in English 2013 GMT 6 May 82

[From transmission "for the British colony on the Malvinas Islands"]

[Text] London, 6 May (TELAM) -- Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher today for the first time appeared to flex slightly in her heretofore cast iron position against a cease-fire in the Malvinas conflict with Argentina, which has so far cost Britain one high technology destroyer, at least nine Sea Harrier jets, three helicopters and more than a hundred British lives.

Appearing before a restless House of Commons, Mrs Thatcher said her government was seriously analysing the peace proposal offered by United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar. Nevertheless, she declared that there will be no cease-fire while they (the Argentines) remain in the Malvinas, and that military action would continue.

RELATIONS WITH U.S. BAD, SAYS COSTA MENDEZ

PY061442 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1430 GMT 6 May 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 May (TELAM) -- Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez asserted here today that relations with the United States are bad because it has allied itself with the enemy. The minister made this statement as he was entering San Martin Palace, and he voiced his hope that it will rectify its attitude and review its relationship with Latin America.

Costa Mendez said he continued to be optimistic over a peaceful solution to the conflict and reaffirmed that for the time being he had no information on a trip to the UN meeting.

Asked about London's reticence at accepting UN mediation, the minister said that question should be answered by the British foreign secretary.

Still Willing To Negotiate

PY061550 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1527 GMT 6 May 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 May (TELAM) -- Argentine Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez said today that Argentina has always had a peaceful and conciliatory attitude and this is why it accepted the UN secretary general's intervention. Costa Mendez made this statement at noon today when he was on his way to the Foreign Ministry Press and Broadcasting Directorate to view a film on the crisis.

He added that Argentina had rejected U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig's proposal because it was not in keeping with national interests. But he said that in no way do we want the international community to believe Argentina does not uphold a peaceful or conciliatory attitude or that is not willing to negotiate.

Answering a question, he said a session of the UN Secretary Council cannot be held without a "specific request."

'SENIOR OFFICIAL' VIEWS LATEST PEACE PROPOSALS

PY070029 Buenos Aires HERALD in English 6 May 82 pp 1, 9

[By Andres M. Wolberg-Stock]

[Excerpts] Argentina last night accepted a UN proposal which could end military confrontations with Great Britain in the South Atlantic over the Malvinas Islands. The issue of sovereignty over the islands is not mentioned in the proposal put forward by United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar and accepted by Argentina yesterday, according to a senior Foreign Ministry official.

The official told the HERALD yesterday afternoon that the proposal is modelled along "the basic UN pattern" and calls for the withdrawal of Argentine and British troops as well as for UN intervention while both countries work on an agreement. "UN intervention could take the form of peacekeeping troops," the official told the HERALD, although, he said, that point is not explicitly defined. He added that the proposal is couched in very general terms. But, he said, "if all other elements in an eventual settlement are satisfactory, we could contemplate accepting UN troops on the islands." Yet, the official warned, "maybe some would find it very hard, politically, to evacuate the islands."

The senior diplomat said he thought Perez de Cuellar himself or a "mediator" chosen by him and agreed to by both sides would probably start assisting both countries. There was no indication as to who the eventual mediator might be.

Explaining why the proposal makes no reference to the issue of sovereignty, the recognition of which Argentina considers the basis point in any proposal, the official said: "This UN proposal can only be neutral -- that's left for both countries to negotiate."

"We have analyzed the proposal at length," the diplomat said. "As it is worded, it does not harm any of Argentina's points of view. There are no pre-set conditions." The proposal was conveyed to Argentina and Britain over the weekend.

The British reaction to Perez de Cuellar's proposal is still unknown, the official said, adding that Britain is known to have a generally unfavorable disposition towards the United Nations. London, he said, is likely to be especially wary of the secretary-general because of his Latin American origin. Perez de Cuellar had requested the two countries to reply to his suggestions by yesterday.

Argentina is not planning to call for an extraordinary meeting of the UN General Assembly, the source said. The next step in the diplomatic field will be to "analyze any peace plan that comes up and study its convenience, because we are really interested in finding a peaceful solution as long as our rights are respected," the diplomat said.

Appraising the current situation, the senior Foreign Ministry official said "we are now in a mixed situation, with events taking place both on the battlefield and in the diplomatic field -- both are very much related," he added.

The Peruvian proposal put forward a few days ago tried to fill the gap in negotiations, said the diplomat. But, he added, "it turned out not to be all that Peruvian, but rather induced by the (U.S.) secretary of state (Alexander Haig). It consisted of proposals very similar to those put forward by Haig, with some variations."

"It turned out to be unacceptable," the official told the HERALD, "because it contained some of the elements we had turned down during talks with Haig. For instance," he added, "there was the notion of following 'the islanders' wishes.' That is a key word, as it was during the 17 years we negotiated with Britain."

The official said the word "wishes" was eventually changed in the Peruvian proposal, probably at Britain's urging, and replaced by "aspirations."

"Not much had been changed," said the diplomat. "That, together with other elements which had made Haig's proposal impossible to accept, made us turn down the (Peruvian) proposal." The official said there had been two fundamental points in discussion during Haig's shuttle mission: The recognition of Argentine sovereignty over the Malvinas and administration of the islands while negotiations for the former were underway.

"If the parameters for the recognition of sovereignty were not clear, we wanted a bigger say in the administration of the islands," said the official. "And, on the other hand, we would have been more flexible on that if we had had a deadline or a guarantee for final recognition of sovereignty." The diplomat said that Haig had told the Argentine authorities that Britain would not accept a wording that pre-determined the outcome of the negotiations. "Discussions were really in a deadlock over that, so we went back to administration. We wanted to put penalties on any delay in negotiations by scheduling a growing share in the administration of the islands for us as time went by," said the official.

"We feared a situation whereby, with a reasonable settlement for Britain, things would just have frozen there. That's what we wanted to avoid, and that's why the Haig mission failed," the diplomat explained.

"After an exchange of fire and with casualties on both sides, some of the options that were being discussed then are no longer viable today -- like joint administration of the Malvinas or U.S. presence on the islands," said the official. "Relations between the United States and Latin American states will suffer for a long time" because of the American decision, of which Haig warned Argentina during the talks, to support Britain in the dispute, the diplomat said. "I understand they had to choose and that they decided to go with their top priority, but that will have a very high cost in terms of their relations with the continent."

UNDER SECRETARY ON POSSIBLE UK ATTACK ON MAINLAND

PY061643 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1523 GMT 6 May 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 May (TELAM) -- Interior Ministry Under Secretary Col Bernardo Jose Menendez today termed the recent statement by UK Defense Secretary John Nott, in the sense that a British attack against Argentine continental territory is possible, as a new act of pressure by Great Britain. In a statement to journalists at Government House, Colonel Menendez stated that this pressure, like the other acts of pressure, will be met with absolute firmness by the Republic of Argentina.

Regarding the current conflict with the United Kingdom, he stated that we are waging this war and will win it alone, with Latin America's support.

The Interior Ministry under secretary also made reference to the new role Argentina will play in the Western world, but always in the Latin American context, in view of the current circumstances. In referring to the Argentine position, he stated that a decision was made and that it is maintained.

In referring to other issues, he stated that Interior Minister Saint Jean soon will resume his meetings with political leaders to keep them informed on the course of events in the conflict.

PROTEST TO RED CROSS AT UK ACTIONS PLANNED

PY062002 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1549 GMT 6 May 82

[Text] Comodoro Rivadavia, 6 May (TELAM) -- Argentina will lodge a strong protest with the International Red Cross within the next few hours to charge that during the confrontations in the South Atlantic Great Britain did not observe a number of commitments provided for in the Geneva Convention. A report here by a very reliable source explains the main points that the protest will include.

The first point would include a protest at not reporting the situation of the civilians who were presumably captured on South Georgia Island, as well as at the lack of information on the fate of the military personnel who might have been taken prisoner during that same action.

The death of noncommissioned officer Felix Artuzo after his capture, and his burial without previous notice, will reportedly also be protested because this violates the provisions of the Geneva Convention on Prisoners of War.

The other issues Argentina will protest to the Red Cross reportedly are related to the incorporation into the British task force of the military officers who were captured by Argentine forces on the Malvinas and who were later repatriated, the sinking of the cruiser General Belgrano through an attack perpetrated by a submarine outside the maritime exclusion zone when it did not intend to carry out any warlike action, and the attack on small vessels, such as the patrol boat Sobral that was attacked by British helicopters as it was sailing to pick up survivors of other actions.

The note will show the indignation of the Argentine Government over the violation of The Hague and Geneva conventions of the attitude adopted by the invading fleet.

DEFENSE MINISTER CONDEMNS UK SINKING OF CRUISER

PY062043 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1837 GMT 6 May 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 May (TELAM) -- During a press conference at noon today at the Sheraton Hotel, Defense Minister Amadeo Frugoli said, regarding the sinking of the cruiser General Belgrano, that "the outrageous argument used by the British defense minister, who said Argentina made a merely formal complaint, is completely false and is an offense to all reason and sensibility, which cannot but condemn such a treacherous decision."

Frugoli made this statement regarding the British attack to about 200 Argentine and foreign journalists. The text of his statement is as follows:

I called this press conference because in my capacity as defense minister I would like to make a statement on the sinking of the cruiser General Belgrano on 2 May. In this regard I would like to say that:

1. The attack was perpetrated by a British submarine against an Argentine ship that was outside the exclusion zone, and that the British Government has tacitly accepted this fact by recognizing that it had ordered the fleet to attack any ship that may pose a threat to the fleet even outside this zone.
2. The self-defense argument that was raised with the intention of showing the offensive nature of the cruiser is inadmissible since it is well known that this ship, which has an outstanding military record and was launched in 1938, lacked modern antisubmarine weapons and had a speed inferior to that of the nuclear submarine Conqueror, which has one of the most sophisticated defense systems in the Western world.
3. That the British Defense Ministry has admitted that the commander of the Conqueror was acting under orders of the British Government when the attack on the cruiser was perpetrated.
4. The Conqueror perpetrated an attack against the General Belgrano while diplomatic negotiations sponsored by the Peruvian Government were underway.
5. The outrageous argument raised by the British defense minister, who said Argentina had made merely a formal complaint is completely false and is an offense to all reason and to the most basic sensibility, which cannot but react to such a treacherous decision, since this attack cost many human lives.

6. In view of this, and as stated in the communique issued by the Argentine Foreign Ministry, this is considered another aggression initiated and perpetrated by Great Britain against our country and takes on a new dimension since it is threatening to extend the war outside the limits of the exclusion zone that had been established and announced by the British Government.

Gentlemen, the facts have been laid out with absolute objectivity, and it is left to the consideration of human conscience, which transcends all borders and whose judgment will be definitive and unappealable.

Frugoli then answered questions by the national and foreign press.

MILITARY SOURCES EXPECTING NEW BRITISH OFFENSIVE

PY070227 Paris AFP in Spanish 2238 GMT 6 May 82

[By Michel Henault]

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 May (AFP) -- The diplomatic machinery which was put into motions seems already to be facing the same obstacles that stood in the way of earlier diplomatic efforts. In the meantime, according to military sources, Argentine troops are redoubling vigilance in the southern part of the country, fearing that a new British offensive might take place, perhaps tonight.

By accepting the UN good offices and the terms of Resolution 502, Argentina is seeking to take the conflict to the UN General Assembly, where it knows it will be supported by the nonaligned countries, it was noted in diplomatic circles here. In the opinion of the Argentine authorities, the advantages offered by the UN proposal is that at no time does it mention the sovereignty issue, which had been a stumbling block for the U.S. proposals.

Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez has said that London alone now has the key to the negotiations, but the British Government seems to persist in its refusal to recognize Argentine sovereignty; and this, according to Buenos Aires circles, will continue to block every diplomatic initiative.

Although Argentina continues to be shocked by Washington's treachery, Costa Mendez, despite conceding that Argentine-U.S. relations were very sad, did not conceal his hope that the White House might soon revise its position regarding Latin America. He said: "We are naturally inclined to continue to stay in the Western world under the aegis of the United States"

According to Foreign Ministry spokesman the latest remarks by British Foreign Secretary Pym charging Buenos Aires with having foiled the Peruvian-U.S. peace efforts were rejected on the ground that the proposal had been presented by Lima under pressure of the U.S. State Department. The spokesman said this was another maneuver by General Haig to undermine the good relations between Peru and Argentina.

Although apparent calm continued to prevail today in the conflict zone, it is believed in military circles that the British fleet will not long stand idly by and that London will not negotiate until its task force had obtained some success in the field. As of tonight there has been no further information concerning the rescue of the cruiser General Belgrano. It has been reported officially that there are 600 survivors, but according to sources close to the navy there are reportedly 830, which means there are at least 250 sailors missing.

No Action Since 4 May

PY070114 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 0101 GMT 7 May 82

[Joint Staff Communique No 27]

[Text] In light of foreign press reports that two British planes had disappeared today, the Joint Staff hereby repeats that no military actions have been carried out in the Malvinas theater since 4 May at 1300. It also notes that in earlier communiques it was reported that the Argentine armed forces had downed nine Sea Harrier planes and Great Britain has so far officially acknowledged the loss of only one plane.

Will Respect Exclusion Zone

PY070141 Formosa Canal Once Television Network in Spanish 2340 GMT 6 May 82

[Text] The nation's defense minister repeated today that Argentina is not an aggressor country; it is defending itself against British armed aggression. It will manage its defense with its own means, wherever and whenever suitable, Minister Amadeo Frugoli explained, adding that Argentina has not considered the possibility of asking for help from other countries. He made these statements during a press conference at the Sheraton Hotel in Buenos Aires today.

The defense minister said further that Argentina will not attack British ships outside the exclusion zone, because Argentina is not an aggressor country.

The minister added that Great Britain has not yet returned a single Argentine prisoner. Regarding the cooperation of a Chilean ship in the saving of the sailors from the General Belgrano, the minister said it is an attitude of poise and solidarity.

Casualty Total Given

PY070121 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 0102 GMT 7 May 82

[Joint Staff Communique No 28]

[Text] The Joint Staff hereby reports that as a result of the attacks by the British forces in the Malvinas theater, from the beginning of the operations up to today, the following Argentine casualties have been incurred: dead 19, wounded 37. The names of the personnel have been made known to their relatives by the respective services.

Sobral Casualties

PY070410 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 0358 GMT 7 May 82

[Joint Staff Communique No 29]

[Text] The Joint Staff hereby reports that as a result of an attack launched by a British helicopter against the patrol vessel Sobral on 4 May while it was engaged in a rescue operation, the ship's crew suffered eight dead and six wounded.

Falklands Airlift Status

PY062050 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 6 May 82

[Excerpts] Comodoro Rivadavia -- The V Corps commander, Maj Gen Osvaldo Jorge Garcia, said today that the status of the military and civilian sectors in the corps area is optimal. In a statement at the end of a press conference, he noted that the forces assigned to the area are ready to go into action when necessary.

Answering journalists during an informal meeting, General Garcia noted that at this time there is an impasse [as heard] in the airlift between the continent and the Malvinas in view of the present situation on the islands. He said: "There are times when the airlift may be carried out regularly, but when there are attacks it is obvious that the planes cannot land."

POSTAL SERVICE TO U.S., EEC COUNTRIES CUT

PY062326 Buenos Aires HERALD in English 6 May 82 p 11

[Text] (DYN) Postal workers yesterday announced that the boycott affecting correspondence to and from the United States and the European Common Market countries will come into force as from today. Last Monday the boycott declared by the Latin American Workers Confederation halted mail to and from Argentina and the United Kingdom. The confederation took this step in support of Argentina's conflict with Britain.

FINANCIAL MARKET SAID IN EXPECTATION OF CHANGES

PY061010 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1908 GMT 5 May 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 5 May (NA) -- The devaluation of the peso by nearly 17 percent, which has been determined by the government, and the expectation of new financial measures which might yet be adopted today stirred the financial and foreign exchange market, and both the dollar exchange rate and interest rates on loans climbed. The Economy Ministry adopted a new exchange rate of 14,000 pesos to the dollar, but at the close of the day's operations the dollar for transfer was selling for 14,050.

Despite the increase in the dollar exchange rate, interest rates still continue to go up, both the interest rates posted on the boards and those offered on over-the-counter operations, to prevent a reduction in level of deposits.

The average interest rate paid by first-line financial agencies rose to 107 percent, while that paid by second-line agencies remained at 120 percent.

Offered interest rates were reinforced by 20-point premiums above those posted in order to attract deposits. These premiums were offered by financial agencies whose deposits were decreasing below the level required by the Central Bank, and so to avoid violating official regulations they had to increase the interest rates offered to depositors. In the interbank market, the interest rate on call-money stayed at the previous day's level of 150 percent, while the Banco de la Nacion charged only 117 percent. Financial operations were light due to the shortage of funds in most of the financial companies. This illiquidity prompted the board of directors of the Central Bank to study the advisability of again reducing the level of the minimum-reserve requirement for banks by 3 or 4 percentage points, thus bringing it down to 13 or 12 percent of total operating capital.

Should that measure of lowering the minimum-reserve requirement be implemented, a volume of 6-8 trillion pesos will be injected in the market to induce a decline in interest rates. A survey among 200 companies revealed that 77 had adjusted the interest rates on monthly deposits, while 73 adjusted those on deposits for less than a month. Other financial companies held their interest rates stable, 111 of them on monthly deposits and 114 on deposits under a month.

The devaluation of the peso, which was not expected by the financial operators, practically halted foreign exchange transactions. The 14,000 pesos above par adopted by the government -- 16.6 percent higher than the previous day -- was surpassed by the 14,050 set by the Banco de la Nacion for the exchange rate for [interbank] transfers.

The Banco de la Nacion official rate was adjusted by 16 percent, thus selling for 13,700 pesos. Adjusted by 12.5, foreign exchange shops were also selling dollars for 13,700 pesos, while purchasing at 13,500, that is, paying 12.5 percent more.

The forward-exchange market transacted no operations, although foreign bonds were affected by the devaluation of the peso since their quotation is pegged to fluctuations of the dollar.

Retail, Wholesale Prices Up

PY070308 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1915 GMT 6 May 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 May (TELAM) -- The Economy Ministry reported this afternoon that retail prices increased 4.2 percent during April, while wholesale prices increased 6 percent. According to these figures, the cost of living increased 137.9 percent during the past 12 months, while wholesale prices increased 194.9 percent.

Construction costs in the federal capital were up 3.6 percent during the same period, and during the past 12 months increased to 113.5 percent.

No Restrictions on Call Money

PY061952 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1649 GMT 6 May 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 May (TELAM) -- The Economy Ministry today denied that a plan is being contemplated to restrict the use of "call money" [in English]. This is stated in a communique released after a meeting of the economic cabinet. Following is the text of the communique:

"We hereby officially deny the press report, which is attributed to unidentified sources, to the effect that a plan is being contemplated to restrict the use of the call money by financial organizations, and the future use of Circular 1050." The communique concludes: "The report is totally false."

CHILEAN JOURNALIST ARRESTED 1 APRIL RELEASED

PY061415 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 6 May 82

[Text] Chilean journalist Ricardo Manriquez Barrientos, who works for Channel 11, has been released. He had been arrested in San Juan, Argentina, by local authorities and later on released (?without) a federal judge bringing him to trial. The journalist was arrested on 1 April and charged with espionage.

Foreign Ministry authorities reported that the Chilean vice consul in Mendoza, (German Gueiler), and honorary consul in San Juan, (Jose Luis Almarza), following the Foreign Ministry's instructions, acted as the journalist's advisors and defended his case so he could regain his freedom.

BRIEFS

MAIZE, SUNFLOWER HARVEST -- (NA) Maize production this year will be in the vicinity of 10 million tons and that of sunflower seed just over 1,800,000 tons, according to the latest estimates made by public by the Agriculture and Livestock Secretariat. The maize crop will be 22.5 percent less than last year when it established an alltime record [excerpt] [Buenos Aires HERALD in English 6 May 82 p 11 PY]

FOREIGN MINISTER: ALLIED SANCTIONS CAUSING HARM

PY061409 La Paz Radio Illimani in Spanish 1100 GMT 6 May 82

[Excerpts] During a press conference in which he discussed issues concerning the South Atlantic crisis, Bolivian Foreign Minister Gonzalo Romero Alvarez Garcia said that Bolivia has been severely harmed by the financial blockade imposed by the EEC and the United States against Argentina.

The foreign minister noted that Bolivia deplores the U.S. attitude regarding the Malvinas crisis and its open support for Great Britain. He said that Bolivia criticizes Great Britain's colonialist attitude.

The foreign minister said that Bolivia deplores the sinking of the ship General Belgrano in which hundreds of young people died. Moreover, it reasserts its diplomatic and juridical support for Argentina. The foreign minister noted, however, that Bolivia is not planning to supply material aid to Argentina.

The foreign minister said that by expressing its support for Great Britain, the United States has virtually disregarded the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty.

Regarding the OAS, the foreign minister said that it will have to be reorganized and restructured.

PRESIDENT DENIES RESIGNATION, CITES SUPPORT

PY061940 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 6 May 82

[Text] The meeting of commanders of the armed forces, which was also attended by the president of the republic and some of his ministers of state, has ended. In this regard we have a report by (Ricardo Andrade).

Good afternoon, listeners of the state-owned radio station: The president of the republic, Gen Celso Torrelio Villa, emphatically denied having resigned his post as president due to lack of support by the armed forces. He made these statements a few minutes ago in San Miguel while disclosing the results of the meeting of commanders of large and small units and of military institutions. The following are the president's statements:

[Begin Torrelio recording] [Words indistinct] An exhaustive analysis of the four factors of importance, that is, the political, economic, social and military fields. The resolutions were disclosed during a meeting which was attended by all the commanders of large units, institutions and branches as well as myself. These resolutions are very healthy ones and to the benefit of the Bolivian people and armed forces of the nation.

The document itself will be released during the next few days. The unanimous criteria of the members of the armed forces of the nation as well as the support of all and each member of the armed forces for the representative of the armed forces in his role as president, that is, for Gen Celso Torrelio Villa, is contained in this document.

In this regard I want to dismiss all kinds of information which only seek to confuse the population and spread information which is not in keeping with reality. [end recording]

The chief of state thus dismissed reports which were spread this morning. In any case, the chief of state remains at the head of the current government.

PRESIDENT FIGUEIREDO TO SHORTEN VISIT TO U.S.

PY070528 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 6 May 82 p 13

[Excerpt] Brasilia -- Presidential Spokesman Carlos Atila has reported that the conflict over the Malvinas has forced a reduction in the program of President Joao Baptista de Oliveira Figueiredo in the United States. The program was released yesterday at Planalto Palace. Atila stated that, concerned over the conflict, the president decided to shorten his absence from Brazil, and that he will return on 15 May and not on 16 May as scheduled before.

NAVY MINISTER ON NEED TO STRENGTHEN NAVAL FORCE

PY061047 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 18 Mar 82

[By Luis Fernando Gomes]

[Excerpts] Navy Minister Maximiano da Fonseca stated yesterday aboard the training ship Custodio de Melo, that to guarantee with absolute tranquillity the security of the territorial sea, the Brazilian Navy "must be 10 times greater." He stressed the possibility of building an air naval base in the island of Trindade, whose initial project has been estimated at \$300 million, "for which there is no lack of offers for foreign financing."

The island of Trindade -- located 3 days away by ship or 600 miles away from the coast -- is the farthest point from the Brazilian territory, half way between South America and Africa.

According to the navy minister, the air naval base in the Island of Trindade is of the highest importance for Brazil: "It is an aircraft carrier that no one can sink, equipped with equipment of vigilance and observation, capable of fighting the enemy far away from our coasts, before he can hit us." According to the navy minister, the initial costs of \$300 million could be reduced with the development of facts.

Asked whether the two visits made to the island by U.S. officers would involve an evaluation by the United States of the possibilities of financing the project, the minister stated that "they are not interested, they went there as technicians and fully approved our studies, and did not propose any change."

Maximiano da Fonseca feels that, although Brazil has no military ambitions, the Brazilian Navy must be 10 times greater so that we can go to sleep at ease." He added that the defense of the South Atlantic -- "a vital ocean in case of a war which could last more than 2 months" -- is of great importance for Brazil because "96 percent of our trade is made through the ocean and depends on the guarantee of naval traffic."

AVIBRAS BUILDING FIRST AV/X-1 GUIDED MISSILE

PY070740 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 2 May 82 p 1

[By Roberto Godoy]

[Text] Brazil is manufacturing the first AV/X-1 guided missile. This is an antitank missile being manufactured by the Aerospace Avibras company of Sao Jose dos Campos. The AV/X-1 is the first model of a series of advanced weapons whose operational characteristics were secretly demonstrated 2 weeks ago to the military ministers who visited Sao Jose dos Campos to observe the performance of this impressive piece of war material which was built basically employing Brazilian technology.

Avibras expects to be manufacturing the SID (Integrated Defense System) by January 1983. The SID consists of a group of armored vehicles which are capable of carrying out different types of operations, and it is a standard NATO system for the 1980's.

MINISTER DISCUSSES COUNTRY'S FINANCIAL STATUS

PY070514 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 May 82

[Text] Commenting on the 1981 financial report on the public sector, Finance Minister Sergio de la Cuadra has said that for the first time in its history Chile was able to pay in advance a major share of its foreign debt.

The report, released by Comptroller General Osvaldo Iturriaga, indicates that the total income of the public sector last year amounted to 501 billion pesos and its total expenditures to 509 billion pesos, that is, there was a slight deficit of 41 billion pesos [as heard], which is approximately equivalent to 1.5 percent.

What is important, however is that an advance payment of 31 billion pesos was made against foreign and domestic debts. Thus had this advance payment not been made, there would have been a surplus. The minister said the advance payment had been made because the public sector had adequate resources.

During a lecture at a seminar organized by the economy faculty of the Catholic University, the finance minister announced that the Chilean balance of payments will have a \$165 million deficit this year.

Last year the country had a \$98 million surplus. This year, however, it is estimated that the country will have a \$165 million deficit. The minister said this was due primarily to the reduction of foreign loans which this year would amount to \$2,658,000,000.

He said the above was due to two factors: since there is a shortage of money worldwide, interest rates are higher; and Chilean banks and enterprises have reached the ceiling of loans that they can get.

The minister announced that the government had decided to obtain a 12 billion pesos loan to pay dismissed teachers since this will happen only once.

ARGENTINA THANKS NAVY FOR RESCUING SAILORS

PY070259 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 May 82

[Text] Vice Adm Carlos Paulo Carpintero today met here with Adm Jose Toribio Merino to convey to him Argentina's appreciation for the Chilean decision to dispatch the ship Piloto Pardo to waters adjacent to the war zone to rescue survivors of the cruiser General Belgrano, which had been sunk by a British submarine.

The meeting was held in Admiral Merino's office at the Defense Ministry Building. Following orders from Argentine Navy Commander in Chief Adm Jorge Anaya, Carpintero expressed Admiral Anaya's appreciation for the Chilean help in rescuing the Argentine survivors of the warship which was sunk last Sunday.

For his part, Admiral Merino delivered to Admiral Carpintero a note addressed to Admiral Anaya his heartfelt condolences over the loss of life occurred in last Sunday's incident.

TURBAY OPENS REGIONAL ECONOMY MINISTERS MEETING

PA062333 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0744 GMT 6 May 82

[Text] Isla de San Andres, Colombia, 5 May (EFE) -- Colombian President Julio Cesar Turbay said today that "the arms race in developing countries instead of ensuring peace leads to impoverishment of the peoples." On opening the first meeting of Caribbean and Central American economy and development ministers on this island, Turbay said that the yearly budget for military expenditures in the world amounts to \$450 billion.

Turbay added that according to the "Brandt" commission report, half of 1 percent of the military expenditures would be enough to finance all the agricultural equipment needed to increase the production of food and would allow, by 1990, the almost total elimination of the world food deficit. "I believe that we still have time to think about this crazy attitude that has been injected into the developing countries by those who profit from the destruction of others," Turbay said. Turbay added that dialogue is the best work strategy for solving controversies and if the same energies used in building war materiel were used in the defense of the principles of the law, then peace could be upheld.

After pointing out the importance of the meeting, Turbay said that his country is proud of being the host that will start "all the energies of the Central American and Caribbean region toward achieving the goals of social justice that the peoples need." Turbay spoke in favor of a defense of social justice, channeling "our will and our initiatives toward the drafting of broad and ambitious projects that will contribute toward achieving the goals of our strife-torn hemisphere." Turbay added that Colombia belonging to the "Nassau" group, of which the United States, Canada, Mexico and Venezuela are also members, is important because the objective of the group is to cooperate to improve the situation of the Caribbean. He said that he has no ambitions of being a leader but he unselfishly wants to serve the "brother" countries "of the continent."

Turbay added that "Colombia as a Caribbean nation has not ignored the responsibilities it has because it is in a zone where violence is showing its face." He told the ministers attending the meeting that Colombia will increase, by \$5 million, its contribution to the special fund of the Caribbean Development Bank. With the additional \$5 million, Colombia's contribution will be of \$21 million. The meeting, attended by representatives of Barbados, Commonwealth of Dominica, St Vincent, St Lucia, Trinidad, Guatemala, El Salvador, Suriname, Belize, Panama, Haiti, Guyana, Dominican Republic, Costa Rica, Honduras, Grenada, Antigua, St Christopher and the Netherlands Antilles, will strengthen the cooperation agreements with Colombia.

Inter-American Crisis Denied

PA070142 Paris AFP in Spanish 1844 GMT 6 May 82

[Excerpts] Isla de San Andres, Colombia, 6 May (AFP) -- Speaking at the meeting of the Central American and Caribbean basin economy ministers, Colombian Foreign Minister Carlos Lemos Simmonds said that the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty (TIAR) would acquire a new dimension if it were accepted by the Caribbean and Central American nations. Lemos Simmonds said that "the TIAR is not a treaty for war but an instrument for the defense of the countries of the hemisphere."

The Colombian foreign minister denied that the inter-American system is in crisis and explained that the abstention vote of the United States, Colombia, Chile and Trinidad-Tobago to an Argentine support resolution "saved it." He said that this abstention prevented the inter-American system from sinking, after a large majority of the countries of the continent supported the resolution in favor of Argentina over the Malvinas. Further on in his speech he asked the Latin American countries to maintain unity and emphasized that "we cannot allow the great powers to divide us again."

Lemos Simmonds reaffirmed the desire of Colombia for the British-Argentine conflict to be solved peacefully and said that Colombia's abstention at the OAS was, above all, to clarify that "Colombia does not approve of the use of violence." "Colombia," Lemos Simmonds said, "has clearly stated that it will only approve of solutions reached through negotiations."

\$5 BILLION TRANSFERRED FROM LONDON TO PARIS

PA061730 Paris AFP in Spanish 1536 GMT 6 May 82

[Text] Caracas, 6 May (AFP) -- Venezuelan Finance Minister Luis Ugueto reported today that the Venezuelan Government has transferred about \$3 billion from London to Paris as a "commercial precaution" due to the escalation of war in the Malvinas. Ugueto clarified that those transfers refer to the deposits of the Venezuelan state in British banks and that they will continue in the same financial institutions but in their Paris branches, not their London head offices. Ugueto justified the measure as a precaution in the face of possible freezing of those funds.

The state-owned Venezuelan Petroleum, Inc (PDVSA) carried out a similar transfer, consisting of about \$2 billion, last week.

Meanwhile, the Standard Charter Bank of London withdrew \$25 million in an interbank exchange between institutions of Britain and Venezuela "as a reprisal against Venezuela for its support of Argentina in the Malvinas conflict." Financial circles said this decision caused uneasiness in Caracas and "could affect the financial future between Great Britain and Venezuela."

CONGRESS APPROVES PURCHASE OF F-16 PLANES

PA061714 Paris AFP in Spanish 1604 GMT 6 May 82

[Text] Caracas, 6 May (AFP) -- The Venezuelan congress has given the government the green light for buying 24 F-16 fighter planes at a total cost of \$616,252,380. No congressman voted against the resolution. The Venezuelan parties have approved an additional \$280 million in credit to finance the first payment and the initial deposit for the purchase. Only the Marxist Movement to Socialism abstained from voting, but its representative noted that he had no objection to the decision.

The almost unanimous political decision has been seen by analysts as a new victory of the "civilian-military agreement of the Venezuelan democracy on matters related to the country's security." As of the second half of 1983, the Venezuelan Air Force (FAV) will have 18 single-seater and 6 two-seater F-16 planes. It has been noted that the FAV will be the first Latin American military service to have F-16's.

AERONAUTICAL UNIONS DECLARE BOYCOTT OF UK PLANES

PA061646 Paris AFP in Spanish 1547 GMT 6 May 82

[Text] Caracas, 6 May (AFP) -- Venezuelan aeronautical labor unions have declared a state of alert and a boycott against all British-registry airplanes to protest "the arrogant and criminal attitude of British colonialism." The National Association of Aeronautical Radio Communications Technicians and the Venezuelan Association of Aeronautical Telecommunications professionals have agreed on a series of measures regarding the Malvinas conflict and have issued a communique announcing the measures. The aeronautical technicians have agreed to make all the necessary contacts to achieve the unity of their Latin American colleagues to this end and to make "the appropriate accusation at the world convention of the International Federation of Air Traffic Controllers' Association (IFATCA)." This convention is being held now in Amsterdam. Venezuela is represented by Luis Morales Saud.

They also agreed to ask the Venezuelan Government to impose related economic measures, "including the confiscation of 400,000 hectares of territory in Venezuela owned by the British Lancashire Investment, Ltd Co since 1917." Point four of the agreement states that "The Executive National Committee of Aeronautical Unions of Venezuela declares itself in permanent session, is considering all measures, and declares a boycott of all British-registry airplanes." They also agreed to express to the Argentine authorities the unrestricted support of "our organizations and all their members to the actions leading to end colonialism in America once and for all."

PEACE MOVEMENT PROTESTS U.S. 'OCEAN VENTURE 82'

FL032130 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1930 GMT 3 May 82

[Text] Cuernavaca, Morelos, 3 May (NOTIMEX) -- The Mexican peace movement has asserted that the U.S. military war games, "Ocean Venture 82," are a threat to peace in our region. Antonio Tenorio Adame, leader of the peace movement, issued a protest against the maneuvers and said the U.S. military threat, involving 45,000 men, 60 ships, 2 aircraft carriers and 350 aircraft, is an intimidation against the Cuban revolution.

The U.S. troop landings on the Cuban territory of Guantanamo are a new provocation against the Cuban people, the protest states. It also said that the bombing maneuvers at Vieques Islands are a total disregard of the Puerto Rican people. They are, the document states, rehearsals for future imperialist invasions against sovereign countries in Latin America.

Lastly, it called on all Mexicans to join the protest which should be made by all free and peace-loving people. The protest was also signed by Senator Horacio Labastida; Deputies Carlos Sanchez Cardenas and Adolfo Mejia; and professors Gerardo Pierre, a Haitian, and Alfredo Romero.

FARM ORGANIZATIONS DEFEND DEPORTEES FROM U.S.

PA062133 Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 5 May 82

[Text] Alberto Salinas Ramos has asked all Mexican labor, agricultural, social and political organizations to defend the Mexicans who live in the United States but who are being deported. Approximately 5,000 of these Mexicans are being deported daily.

Salinas Ramos, president of the Mexican Federation of Agricultural Organizations, has said that the actions being taken by U.S. President Ronald Reagan are aimed at forcing Mexico to modify its position toward Latin American problems.

(Jose Dolores Lopez Dominguez), leader of the Independent Central of Agricultural Workers and Peasants, has said that the Mexican Government must work energetically to support the Mexicans who have been working for a long time in the United States without any guarantees and with low salaries. The Mexican Bar Association also scored the massive deportations being carried out as part of the so-called job operation. According to Mexico's attorneys, the United States has the right to take whatever measures it deems necessary, but it is violating its own laws when it carries out raids against persons without legal documents.

In the United States, Cesar Chavez, a peasant leader, characterized Texas as the most repressive state and noted that it is there where the Mexicans without document are being most exploited. Chavez said that the immigration and naturalization office of the state has kept the Mexican workers from forming labor unions, as it has done in California, and this has forced the Mexican workers to accept wages lower than the minimum wage in effect. (Jose Gallegos), director of the Social and Political Research Center of Ciudad Juarez, has said that the purpose of the measure is to hire the same persons without documents at the end of the campaign, but at lower wages.

GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS SUMMONED IN CIA INQUIRY

FL070020 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2230 GMT 6 May 82

[Text] Mexico City, 6 May (NOTIMEX) -- Officials from various government offices have been summoned by the Chamber of Deputies special committee investigating the activities of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), according to Deputy Cuauhtemoc Amezcua.

Officials from the Attorney General's Office, Federal District Department and the Secretariat of Foreign Relations were summoned by the commission to testify and help in the inquiry, he said. Their testimony is expected to shed some light on the charges against former Director of Federal Security Miguel Nassar Haro and the bodies found in the Tula River. PRI Deputy Demetrio Ruiz Malerva said that the legislators charged with the investigation of those cases "would follow them through whatever the consequences." Deputy Salomon Faz Sanchez, who heads the committee's investigations, said the results of the inquiry would be announced next week.

FRG MINISTER COMMENTS ON FALKLANDS, ENERGY TALKS

FL061124 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0330 GMT 6 May 82

[Text] Mexico City, 5 May (NOTIMEX) -- The FRG's minister of research and technology, Andreas von Bulow, said here today that his government is having "contacts" with "friends and allies" to seek a peaceful solution to the British-Argentine conflict over the Malvinas. "Further bloodshed must be prevented," the German minister said in a statement to the press on arrival in this capital. He is here on an official visit during which he will meet with President Jose Lopez Portillo. Von Bulow said that a peaceful solution to the British-Argentine dispute is in "the best interest" of the whole international community. He praised the mediation efforts of the United States and several Latin American governments which so far have failed.

The German minister reported that his 5-day visit seeks to increase and strengthen cooperation between his country and Mexico on solar and nuclear energy. Von Bulow, who described Mexico as a "key country" of the Third World, said that he will take up the conflict in the South Atlantic at his meeting with Lopez Portillo to learn of the Mexican Government's opinion.

Von Bulow's agenda will include meetings with the secretary of patrimony and industrial development, Jose Andres de Oteyza, and the director of the Federal Electricity Commission, Fernando Escoffier Artigas. He is also scheduled to visit La Paz, Baja California Sur, where two desalinization plants and several solar energy plants are under construction with FRG technology. He said that 4.5 billion pesos have been spent on these projects to date.

\$50 MILLION TRADE AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH BULGARIA

PA061831 Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 5 May 82

[Text] During the 1981-1983 period, Mexico and Bulgaria will make purchases amounting to \$50 million in line with an agreement signed by the two countries, according to an announcement made by the office of the commerce secretary, one of the signatories of the agreement, has said that as a result of this bilateral exchange, Mexico will increase its sales to and its purchases from Bulgaria. Hernandez gave the Bulgarian authorities a list of exportable Mexican products which included coffee, cotton, synthetic and artificial fibers, clothes, shoes and chemical and food products.

FOREIGN SECRETARY LEAVES ON EUROPEAN TOUR

FL060130 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2342 GMT 5 May 82

[Text] Mexico City, 5 May (NOTIMEX) -- Mexico's Foreign Secretary Jorge Castaneda traveled to Switzerland today starting a tour of several European countries. He will attend the meetings in Geneva of the Commission on International Law of which he has been a member for the past 15 years. Later he will visit the Hungarian People's Republic, GDR and Denmark, at the invitation of those governments.

SERIOUSNESS OF FALKLANDS CRISIS ESCALATION NOTED

PA062156 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 6 May 82 p 4-A

[Editorial: "Malvinas, A Serious Conflict"]

[Text] If a negotiated solution to the British-Argentine conflict over the Malvinas seemed difficult before the hostilities began, it now seems almost impossible after the cruiser Belgrano was sunk by a British submarine. The attack was perpetrated in international waters, that is to say, on the open seas, where freedom of navigation must be respected. A negotiated solution is impossible, that is, unless Mrs Thatcher's unbridled impulses -- totally improper for an intelligent and responsible statesperson -- have been satisfied with the sacrifice of the lives of hundreds of Argentine youths through a totally inconceivable action by the Royal Navy.

Unfortunately, this probably will not happen, in spite of the general clamor for the reestablishment of peace and the unanimous opinion of Latin America, which condemns the British aggression without reservations and likewise recognizes Argentina's sovereignty over the disputed islands. To the contrary, we fear that Mrs Thatcher will decide to reinforce the fleet dispatched to recover the Malvinas by blood and fire, having grown arrogant with the "feat" accomplished by the British admiral -- a worthy emulator of his predecessors, the Vernons, Morgans and Drakes. She might even dispatch large contingents of troops aboard the merchant ships that have been requisitioned for this purpose, even with the risk that these ships might be torpedoed and sunk in the middle of the Atlantic by some of the "unidentified" submarines that navigate in the area, something which might happen if the conflict becomes more complicated.

What is taking place around the Malvinas due to Mrs Thatcher's stubbornness would be totally inconceivable if one were abiding by modern international law or taking into consideration the opinion of the world's uncommitted nations. The UN Security Council and the OAS cannot remain impassive before such a flagrant violation of the most elemental norms of human rights, when a foreign power has unleashed an armed attack against an American nation disregarding the dispositions in the San Francisco and Bogota charters and the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty.

President Royo was absolutely clear and precise when he outlined Panama's just position to the Latin American diplomats accredited to Panama and presented a formula for a solution based on the complete demilitarization of the area of the conflict and Great Britain's categorical recognition of Argentina's sovereignty over the Malvinas. There can be no other solution. However, if Mrs Thatcher continues to heed her belligerent impulses, no one knows what might happen. Also, no one will have grounds to complain if Soviet diplomacy makes profitable catches while "fishing" in the turbulent waters of the South Atlantic.

PRESIDENT ROYO'S MEETING WITH AMBASSADORS

PA042012 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 4 May 82

[Jose Montano report]

[Excerpts] The ambassadors of the 20 Latin American countries that are signatories of the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty were summoned to the Foreign Ministry this morning for a round of talks with Foreign Minister Jorge Illueca and President Aristides Royo.

Present at the meeting, which took place at approximately 1200, were Col Marco Justines, Deputy Foreign Minister Jose Maria Cabrera and Minister Tomas Gabriel Altamirano Duque [of public works].

In the course of the meeting, at which foreign correspondents were present, while the government radio station [Radio Nacional] broadcast the events to the entire country, President Royo first read and then distributed a copy of a message that he sent to Argentine President Leopoldo Fortunato Galtieri. In the message, Royo expressed, in the name of the Panamanian people and government, Panama's indignation over what he described as the treacherous attack launched against the cruiser "General Belgrano."

The Panamanian president's message to his Argentine counterpart described those who were killed in the sinking of the Argentine cruiser as heroes and martyrs of the continent.

Meanwhile, government sources, who asked to not be identified, confirmed to this station that for the past 3 days there have been contacts between Panamanian Foreign Minister Jorge Illueca and Venezuelan Foreign Minister Jose Alberto Zambrano Velasco, aimed at organizing a meeting of Latin American foreign ministers that would eventually be held in Panama City. The meeting would be held to impose collective sanctions against Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's government and also to adopt a more precise collective strategy in Argentina's favor.

However, it was not possible to confirm or deny this report at the moment with Foreign Minister Illueca, who told Latin American ambassadors and military attaches who went to the Foreign Ministry this morning that a new meeting of the UN Security Council is imminent.

Illueca read a dispatch from London indicating that Great Britain would use its veto at the United Nations whenever an attempt is made to impose sanctions on its government because of the situation in the Malvinas Islands. In Illueca's opinion, this announcement is an indication that there has been a great change within the United Nations. The international body seems to be getting ready to criticize Great Britain and take action against that country in view of the events in the Malvinas. Illueca asked Latin American ambassadors to send messages urging their governments to make organized preparations for what could become a regional diplomatic offensive against Great Britain at the United Nations. Personally, President Aristides Royo said that he had received a letter from U.S. President Ronald Reagan. Royo spoke to the Latin American diplomats in the following terms:

[Begin recording, in progress]...is also a concern that we would like to share with the fraternal peoples of Latin America. For this reason, we have called you to this first meeting. We want to tell you that it will not be the last. We will preside over this first meeting, but we want Foreign Minister Illueca to maintain a continuous link for communication, information, consultation, counsel and advice with you at all times. We want to hear your voices and your opinions. I will proceed to give you some information.

This morning, we sent a telegram to President Leopoldo Fortunato Galtieri. In a moment we will distribute copies to the press. In this message, we state that, in the name of the Panamanian people and government, we express our indignation over the treacherous attack -- and we underline the word treacherous because it even took place outside the so-called 200 mile exclusion zone -- the treacherous attack launched against the ship "Belgrano" by the British Government and state that we consider the victims of the treacherous attack to be heroes and martyrs of our continent, not just Argentine heroes and martyrs. We also state that we share with the Argentine people the sorrow that they must be suffering over these losses. We also reaffirm the feelings of solidarity and support not only of Panama, but of the great Latin American fatherland.

In another quarter, I have received a letter from the President of the United States.

I inform you ambassadors and chiefs of mission that we are preparing to answer this note. However, realizing that in events of this kind and in these difficult moments, Panama must show solidarity, not only with the Argentine people and government, but also with the other peoples and that we must demonstrate to the world that Latin America is an area, a region and a community or commonwealth of interests, we felt that you should also express opinions and give us some ideas.

I would like to make an introduction at this point, perhaps in the form of a prelude to the opinions that you may express this morning. First of all, I think it is Panama's duty to try to strive, with all means at its disposal -- which are legal, international and political means -- to bring about peace, or to contribute to the attainment of peace. One of the basic demands that Great Britain is making is the withdrawal of the Argentine forces from the Malvinas. We would like to point out to you some principles that Panama has been proposing, at times through Foreign Minister Illueca. We would advocate the withdrawal of both sides. Let the Argentine and the British forces withdraw and perhaps a peacekeeping force could temporarily take charge of the Malvinas. Let there be a complete end to hostilities and the presence of military forces of both countries.

However, all negotiation and all activities -- the end of hostilities and the withdrawal of both forces and guardianship by blue helmets, for example, who could be of different nationalities -- must be based on a fundamental principle: Great Britain's recognition of Argentina's sovereignty over the Malvinas. In our opinion, this is the key, the absolute crux of all negotiations: recognition that the Malvinas belong to Argentina. [end recording]

Immediately after President Royo's statement, Silvio Neumann, Argentina's ambassador to Panama, made the following comments: [Begin recording] Mr President, Mr Foreign Minister, Mr Minister, Colonel Justines, Mr Deputy Minister:

I venture to anticipate the instructions that I will surely receive to once again thank President Royo and through him the Panamanian Government for the terms and the initiative involved in this telegram, which we find moving and which once again reveals to us the feeling of these generous people. Indeed, there is no more appropriate word than treacherous for an underhanded attack that violates not only the laws of civilization but also the very laws of war by transcending the perimeters of the blockade that had been established, in the first instance, by the aggressor power.

I repeat my recognition that I will shortly reiterate to the president, undoubtedly this time for the president of the Republic of Argentina. I also wish to thank him for this initiative that will be enriched by the contributions of enlightened mission chiefs and I think that as in all initiatives which seek to restore the peace that has been disrupted by foreign colonialist aggression, it will be very valuable in the formation of a collective conscience that, as I can see, is reacting favorably. This can be noted in the statements of the foreign minister and in some paragraphs of the letter received by you, Mr President, which seem to be indicative of this.

As regards the legal concept that sovereignty can be separated from the exercise of it, I think that the foreign minister of the Republic of Argentina has spoken very clearly: We can negotiate everything else but sovereignty. We can obey UN Resolution 502 to the extent that it is consistent and in line with itself; that is, if it is interpreted as a whole and not partially as has been done by the sponsor of the resolution and as long as it is related to the other UN resolutions and pronouncements made in other equally eminent and respectable forums such as the OAS, the inter-American legal committee and the group of nonaligned countries.

I do believe, Mr President, that in other cases -- for example that of Panama and its sovereignty over the canal -- it has been possible to separate sovereignty from the full exercise of it as long as the timeframes involved are realistic and dignified and in consonance with this struggle that is costing us blood and not mocked by a colonialist criteria, by lack of precision or by the lack of fixed dates or by a prolonged time that is not commensurate with the struggle that the Argentine people are confronting.

I thank you, Mr President, and I am certain that we will very carefully study what you are going to propose, and I am grateful for the prestige and the position that you have taken -- and you have been the first to do so -- along with all these fraternal peoples who are sitting at these tables. I am certain that you will play a prominent role in the reestablishment of the world peace that has been seriously harmed, and in the reestablishment of our sovereignty which, to reiterate the statements made by my president and foreign minister, is absolutely nonnegotiable.

Thank you very much, Mr President. [end recording]

COSTA RICASANDINIST SOLDIERS CROSS BORDER, MAKE ARRESTS

PA070325 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1917 GMT 6 May 82

[Text] San Jose, 6 May (ACAN-EFE) -- One hundred Sandinist soldiers made an incursion last week into Alajuela Province in the northern part of the country searching for undocumented persons and "counterrevolutionaries," it was learned today in this capital. The Nicaraguan soldiers penetrated the northern part of the country, taking advantage of the poor vigilance of the Costa Rican authorities in that region, according to local media.

During the incursion, the Sandinist soldiers arrested several undocumented persons in Isla Chica de Curtris and Conchita de Los Chiles. There were no reports of anyone being wounded during the arrests or of the nationality of those arrested. Costa Rica media note that such a situation has created uncertainty among the residents of the northern part of the country, who are afraid of being caught in the middle of the crossfire between the Nicaraguan troops and the anti-Sandinists.

A group of residents of the northern zone -- Nicaraguans and Costa Ricans -- appeared yesterday at the rural assistance guard department in San Carlos to request help from the authorities. It was learned that several rural guardsmen will visit the northern part of the country in the coming days to investigate these charges.

EL SALVADORGUERRILLA ACTIONS DAMAGE 10 BUSES, POWER POSTS

PA070343 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1609 GMT 6 May 82

[Text] San Salvador, 6 May (ACAN-EFE) -- Ten urban transportation buses and two electricity posts were destroyed in separate explosions staged by rebels in this capital, military sources have announced. The 12 explosions occurred last night during a 10 minute interval while many persons were still on the principal streets of the capital. Most of the buses damaged were in the southwestern and northeastern sectors, the military spokesmen reported.

They added that two other dynamite charges were placed in high tension towers in the city of Mejicanos in the outlying northern part of San Salvador. Two persons were wounded as a result of these explosions, local authorities announced.

GUATEMALAFOREIGN MINISTER SCORES EXCLUDING U.S. FROM OAS

PA061308 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 6 May 82

[Text] Foreign Minister Luis Alfonso Alonso Lima today told this station that if the United States is excluded from the OAS, the situation that we are experiencing could worsen. He said this could result in the division of America, from which only other interested, powerful countries would benefit. The foreign minister said that any such action should be cautiously and carefully analyzed because of the effects that it would have on the American countries themselves.

Foreign Minister Alonso Lima told this station that if the United States is excluded from the OAS, America would be divided into small groups and would lose its unity. He added that if this were to happen, there would then be a Latin American organization, another bloc formed by the United States and Canada, as well as another one in the Caribbean.

Alonso Lima said that in reality, all aspects must be weighed, because one cannot deny the valuable and important contributions that the United States has always given to the OAS.

THREE COLONELS REPLACE CIVILIAN GOVERNORS

PA061238 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 6 May 82

[Text] The military government junta has appointed three colonels as departmental governors, replacing the civilians who had held these positions. Thus, Col (Juan Jose Solis) replaced (Aroldo) [names indistinct] in Alta Verapaz; Col Carlos Salazar replaced (Isaac Rolando Paiz Suazo) in Jalapa; and Col (Pedro Maldonado) replaced professor and newsman (Ernesto Singado) in Totonicapan.

FORMER DEPUTY LEAVES EMBASSY, FLEES COUNTRY

PA052027 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1809 GMT 5 May 82

[Text] Guatemala City, 5 May (ACAN-EFE) -- Reliable sources reported today that former Deputy Trinidad Ucles unexpectedly left the Peruvian Embassy in Guatemala City, where he had taken asylum, and fled to a Central American country. The former deputy and high-ranking leader of the Democratic Institutional Party (PID), which supported Gen Anibal Guevara's candidacy in the 7 March elections (which were later annulled due to fraud), left the embassy, leaving only a note expressing thanks for the way he was treated when he sought asylum. ACAN-EFE has established that the former deputy left the country over the weekend, taking advantage of the international labor day holiday on 1 May. It has been learned in Guatemala City today that Ucles might have traveled to Tegucigalpa, Honduras, where he is originally from. However, there has been no official confirmation.

NICARAGUA

TINOCO PROPOSES U.S. BE EXPELLED FROM SYSTEM

PA061423 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1352 GMT 6 May 82

[Text] Managua, 6 May (ACAN-EFE) -- The Managua newspapers today report that the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry has proposed the revamping of the inter-American system with the expulsion of the United States. The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry made the proposal yesterday during a meeting with the ambassadors of Cuba, Mexico, Brazil, Peru, Ecuador, the Dominican Republic, Costa Rica, Venezuela, Colombia, Guatemala and Argentina. During the meeting, acting Foreign Minister Victor Tinoco exchanged views with the diplomats regarding the British-Argentine conflict, reiterating the recognition of Argentina's rights over the Malvinas islands.

According to the press reports, the ambassadors condemned the British military attacks in the South Atlantic. Tinoco insisted that the inter-American system must be "cleaned up" -- alluding to the United States -- and that the system should serve the interests of nations from the Rio Grande (Mexico) to Patagonia.

COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY BAND CAPTURED IN CORINTO

PA061830 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 May 82

[Text] A new band of counterrevolutionaries operating under the name of the Anticommunist Revolutionary Brigades [BRAC] was dismantled early this month in the port of Corinto, in the western department of Chinandega, it was reported here today.

Members of the state security and of the Sandinist Peoples Army, EPS, captured the six members of the band. This group had been engaged in sabotage of the nation's economy since October 1981, and had planned attacks on the security corps, against the people's dignity and morale.

Besides identifying themselves as members of BRAC, the hoodlums, according to a source, belonged to the so-called Nicaraguan Democratic Union of former Somozist guardsmen who mobilize in Honduras and break into Nicaraguan territory. This is the first time, however, that such a band has been detected in this Nicaraguan Pacific port, a few kilometers from the Honduran border. At the time of their capture, the counterrevolutionaries were carrying hand weapons, a large sum of money and copies of the papers NICA LIBRE and LEGION 15 DE SEPTIEMBRE, information organs printed in Miami and Honduras.

HUMBERTO ORTEGA ADDRESSES WORKERS ON MAY DAY

PA061627 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 2 May 82 p 3

[Excerpt] Granada -- Commander Humberto Ortega stated that the Nicaraguan working class is not struggling for crumbs, but for structural social changes to build a new society, in which men will not be exploited or oppressed by other men. For this, the people must prepare themselves ideologically, politically and technically, and be ready to make even greater sacrifices. Ortega delivered his speech to 20,000 people in Granada on 1 May. Commander Ortega, a member of the political commission of the FSLN National Directorate, explained that the workers' main tasks will be to build a new society and a new economy for the workers' material and social progress. Ortega also mentioned the dangers posed by surprise attacks and imperialist threats against the Nicaraguan people.

Ortega emphasized that the workers must prepare themselves in all sectors, even in technical sectors, because industrial and agricultural development requires the use of technology. He added that imperialism is preventing the sale of machinery or equipment to Nicaragua, so "we are forced to acquire it elsewhere, mainly in socialist countries. This means that the workers must study and learn new techniques, and this cannot be done within a short period of time. We have bought over 600 tractors from the Soviet Union and we will use them, even if the bourgeois and reactionaries do not like it; or perhaps they want us to continue using oxen and our hands to till the land." Ortega added "We will use the techniques of any country that wants to help us or have relations with us as equals; and we are also going to defend those tractors at any costs."

Ortega pointed out that the working class' main task is defense and urged the workers to "keep the machinery and the rifles well-oiled to face situations even more difficult than those which we have faced thus far, which can only be compared to the war of liberation's gravest hours." He added that "with their sacrifice the workers must show the other social classes the road that we must take to achieve a happy future for the children of Nicaragua."

OFFICIAL SAYS AGRARIAN REFORM BENEFITS PEASANTS

PA061247 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2219 GMT 5 May 82

[Text] Managua, 5 May (ACAN-EFE) -- A total of 24,500 hectares of land have been given out by the Nicaraguan Government to peasants organized in cooperatives or as individuals since the agrarian reform process was implemented in October 1981. Ivan Gutierrez, deputy director of agrarian reform, today told ACAN-EFE that the agrarian reform titles have benefited 2,500 peasant families and 100 Sandinist farming cooperatives.

During the 7 months that the law has been in effect, a total of 108,500 hectares were intervened by the state, because they had been totally abandoned, were improperly cultivated or were in a phase of depleting capital. It is anticipated that in the coming four months, the government will distribute the rest of the lands of the large estates of more than 350 hectares affected by the law, benefitting 12,000 peasant families.

OFFICIALS COMMENT ON U.S. ERROR OVER FALKLANDS

FL061417 Bridgetown CANA in English 1405 GMT 6 May 82

[By Lionel Martin]

[Text] Havana, 6 May (CANA-REUTER) -- Cuban officials say the conflict between Argentina and Britain over the Falkland Islands has done a great deal to further "the progressive cause" in Latin America. One official told reporters last night: "The Argentine-British conflict over the Malvinas (Falklands) has done great harm to U.S. prestige in Latin America and has wrecked the dreams of the Argentine military junta to make itself the gendarme of the region."

"It is a conflict between two allies of the United States and not even (U.S. secretary of state) Mr Haig can blame the Cubans for what is happening there." Another said: "The United States made a historic error in coming out so blatantly on the side of Great Britain. Haig has done more to undermine the Organisation of American States and the Inter-American Mutual Assistance Treaty than anything Cuba could have done."

A third official said when the conflict ended, "The Argentinian military junta will not be in a position to resume its military aid to anti-Nicaraguan forces in Honduras. The junta," he added, "was prepared to play the role of Latin American gendarme for Uncle Sam, but the present conflict closes the door to that episode."

In an official statement issued last Saturday, the Cuban Government declared that the nations of Latin America "are duty bound to support Argentina with all the means that might be necessary."

COMMENTATOR SEES SCHISM IN WESTERN HEMISPHERE

FL060230 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 6 May 82

[Commentary by Carlos Mora Herman]

[Text] The imperialist building is crumbling and wide cracks are appearing everywhere due to Washington's attitude toward the Malvinas Islands. France, the FRG and The Netherlands have voiced certain reservations regarding the commitment to support Great Britain that they undertook several days ago under the aegis of the EEC. Strong Latin American partners of the United States, such as the Venezuelan, Costa Rican and Peruvian governments are criticizing Washington's role in this conflict and are calling for an OAS without the United States. They want the headquarters of the OAS moved to another country and believe the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty (TIAR) to be long dead and buried. Only Pinochet in Chile and Turbay Ayala in Colombia offer to us the sad image of shameless lackeys of the imperialists.

The Malvinas have shown, among other things, that there are two Americas: The turbulent and brutal north which despises us -- as Marti said -- and the America that starts south of Rio Bravo. A different America, not only geographically but also economically, politically, culturally, socially and historically. The knife which the Washington government stuck in the Argentine people's back by changing its hypocritical position as a mediator to that of an open and active accomplice of Great Britain in this aggression, is one of the blackest pages in the history of world infamy.

The United States has thus become the main responsible party for this criminal war brought to this continent by a declining colonialist power. Washington is responsible for the Argentine and British people who have died so far. Washington is to blame for the collective murder on the high seas committed by the sinking of the Argentine cruiser General Belgrano.

Without U.S. material and logistic support the British would never have gotten themselves involved in this colonialist adventure. It will not be easy for the United States to justify this policy of theirs which shows them as the true enemies of Latin America and the world at large. The Malvinas are a test for U.S. imperialism and for the gorilla and puppet governments which remain in power through crime and repression. Argentina will not be the same once the Malvinas conflict is over. The people have taken to the streets to fight a courageous and firm struggle, not only to defend Argentine sovereignty over the Malvinas, but also their right to freedom and democracy. Thus, the battle over the Malvinas is a battle of all Latin American people, of our America, the America of Bolivar, Marti and the forefathers who have struggled against colonialism, oppression, dictatorship and crime.

RADIO SAYS U.S. VIEW OF CUBA IS NOT REALISTIC

PA051836 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 May 82

[Station commentary]

[Text] The United States insists that Cuba must renounce its foreign policy principles to begin bilateral talks. U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig recently said that Cuba must forget its friendship with the Soviet Union and rejoin what he called the big Western hemispheric family. Haig said that this would bring our country out of what he termed economic stagnation. This position is not new. They are only reiterations of statements made by previous governments that have been installed in the White House since the triumph of the Cuban revolution.

At the beginning of the year, President Ronald Reagan referred to the same matter in similar terms. The U.S. statements have been combined with new aggressive measures against Cuba that range from drastic restrictions on U.S. tourist and business travel to provoking maneuvers in the Caribbean that include landings in the Guantanamo naval base. It can be seen that the United States is using blackmail and pressure to negotiate from a position of strength. The U.S. leaders cannot yet understand that the Cuban people will never renounce the construction of socialism, the exercise of internalism, or their firm and loyal friendship with the Soviet Union, a country with which we maintain ties that Fidel Castro has characterized as exemplary. Besides, the Cubans will never forget that thanks to unselfish Soviet aid, the United States was unable to economically strangle the revolution.

Despite the aggressive U.S. position, the Cuban Government has often said it is prepared to hold a dialogue to end the differences that exist with the United States as a result, basically, of the lack of realism demonstrated by Washington in its policy toward Cuba and in its insistence on crushing the revolution.

In the past few months, and in view of the deteriorating Central American and Caribbean situation, Cuba -- which is threatened, almost daily, by U.S. Government officials -- has stated its full support for the Mexican peace proposals for the area. These peace proposals include a dialogue with Washington. The United States, however, is delaying in giving a realistic answer to this. At the same time that socialist Cuba's image is being distorted, it is being shamelessly said that the only way that our country can pull out of what they call a serious economic crisis is to return to capitalism.

The U.S. leaders are again mistaken in their analysis of Cuba. The revolution has been fully consolidated in the political, economic and social fields. Our achievements in many fields have been acknowledged and recognized internationally. Thousands of visitors and representatives of organizations and institutions have verified this on the field. For this reason, it is good to reiterate that we don't export the revolution, but we cannot be blamed if the social and economic achievements of these years are an example for many people who have slowly come to realize that only socialism can solve the most pressing problems of underdevelopment.

This is why Reagan, Haig and the other U.S. Government officials have no choice but to continue slandering an achievement that they have not been able to destroy and that they will never destroy.

RADIO REPORTS NONALIGNED COMMUNIQUE ON FALKLANDS

FL061213 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 May 82

[Excerpt] The Coordinating Bureau of the Nonaligned Movement has confirmed its support for Argentina's sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands and called on the two sides to find a peaceful solution to the dispute. The bureau met at the Argentine Government's request and approved a communique deploring the loss of lives in the conflict over the South Atlantic islands. The communique reasserts that the use of force or the threat of the use of force in relations between states violates the principles of the Nonaligned Movement. The communique urges the two countries to find a peaceful solution in line with Security Council Resolution 502 in its entirety, and the decisions of the movement and the UN General Assembly on the colonial status of the Malvinas.

LE MONDE CITES CARLOS RODRIGUEZ ON FALKLANDS

Paris LE MONDE in French 6 May 82 pp 1,4

[Marcel Niedergang interview with vice president of the Cuban Council of State Carlos Rafael Rodriguez in Paris: "Cuba Will Use All Means, Including Military, To Help Argentina" -- date not given]

[Text] "The normalization of our relations with the United States now depends on a negotiated solution in Central America...." Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Cuban Council of State, who has been on an official visit to France since Monday 3 May, has for 20 years been at the center of all attempts, public or secret, to achieve a rapprochement between Washington and Havana. His confidential statements of the "side-lights" on those contacts say a great deal about the real climate of American-Cuban relations.

Thanks to dynamic Mexican mediation the Cuban number three had a secret meeting with Mr Alexander Haig in Mexico last November. He confirmed that it was a "courteous and important" meeting. But, he added, "contrary to what has been said, it was not the first time that there had been a meeting at that level." Indeed, back in May 1978 Carlos Rafael Rodriguez met an American secretary of state, Mr Vance at that time, in New York. It was a short meeting: 2 hours previously President Carter had accused Cuba of intervening in Shaba.

Another, much less well-known "attempt" took place with Henry Kissinger -- Who would have believed it? -- But that time it was the Angolan events which made the "contact" fail.

With hindsight Mr Rodriguez thinks that Kennedy "would have gone a long way in the search for calmer relations [apaisement]; his assassination completely destroyed that hope. "Today," he said, "we are not attacking any precondition to a revival of normalization. We are still prepared for it.

"There can be negotiations, but politics imposes its realities. As long as the civil war continues in El Salvador, obstacles and contradictions will remain. A negotiated solution in El Salvador could, however, improve relations with Nicaragua and encourage nonaggression pacts in the region. It was France and Mexico which pointed out the necessary path of negotiation in that sphere with their August 1981 resolution. There is no need to reiterate that we fully support that initiative. We are prepared to shoulder our responsibilities. The United States must shoulder its responsibilities...."

The Cuban leader thinks that the "optimism" aroused by the latest American-Cuban meetings (particularly those between Gen Vernon Walters and Fidel Castro in Havana) is not "justified."

He thinks that the Reagan team's policy is "aggressive again" (major American air and naval maneuvers in the Caribbean since 3 May, suspension of tourist flights between Miami and Havana, constant reference to a "possible military intervention" against Cuba).

"On our side," he said, "we are making no secret of the fact that we are strengthening our defense and our armaments. That is true. But no Latin American country should or can be alarmed by that. We are prepared to give full assurances...."

Cuba's determined support for Argentina in the Falklands war makes it possible for the Havana leaders to envisage a strengthening of Latin American solidarity, against Washington this time. "That support," Mr Carlos Rafael Rodriguez explained, "goes to the Argentine peace and the Argentine cause. It does not go to the Buenos Aires junta."

[Question] Does that support "using all means" imply practical military aid?

"Using all means, including military means," the Cuban leader asserted, while disputing American-source reports that a Cuban plane which made a stopover in Brazil in mid-April was transporting military equipment to Buenos Aires. "That plane," he said, "was in fact taking Cuban Ambassador Aragonés back to Buenos Aires."

The Cuban leader does not think that the 28 March election in El Salvador weakened the guerrillas in that country. "First," he said, "the election was a farce. Second, the result is causing more problems in Washington than it solves. Finally, according to our own information, the guerrillas are being strengthened and reorganized, and it is clear that the armed struggle is going to be continued and stepped up...."

A Nonaligned Movement summit (Cuba is the nonaligned chairman) is to take place in Baghdad next September. It is clear that the Gulf war between Iraq and Iran is making that meeting problematic. Thus the Havana leaders intend to make every effort to encourage a cease-fire between the two countries before that date. "Our great friend (Algerian Foreign Minister) Benyahia has just lost his life in his and Algeria's efforts to find a negotiated settlement. No effort should be spared to revive those efforts," Carlos Rafael Rodriguez stated, adding: "Several solutions have already been envisaged by the three different working groups attached to that mission. The main emphasis must now be placed on halting the fighting."

The Cuban Council of State vice president denied that there are "tensions caused by the balance of strength" within the nonaligned movement. But he admitted that serious difficulties have arisen on some problems such as Kampuchea, the Gulf war and Afghanistan.

He thinks that, in the "Present context of serious world crisis" and of "serious threats of war," the Nonaligned Movement must above all regain unity based on "the major fundamental principles" on which "we all agree."

He also hopes that the Nonaligned Movement will be able to launch a solemn appeal in Baghdad "to the superpowers" urging them to wake up to the serious dilemma now facing the whole of mankind: "war or peace."

According to him -- and here he expressed a clearly stated and well-known Cuban viewpoint -- "The Afghanistan question is not only connected with the presence of foreign troops." The Kabul government, he said, "is a member of the United Nations and the Nonaligned Movement. It is legitimate and demonstrates its sovereignty. The problem, therefore, is one of finding a political solution which makes it possible to withdraw those foreign troops. Account must also be taken of the threats being posed on Afghanistan's borders. I personally have had several opportunities to have consultations with the leaders of the countries neighboring Afghanistan, to explore ways of finding a political solution...."

The question of "Cuban troops in Angola" is, according to Mr Rodríguez, "one of the subjects constantly included on the 'list' of American-Cuban disputes" by the Washington leaders. He reaffirmed that Cuban troops are in Angola "at the request of the Luanda government," but he admitted that a settlement of the Namibia question "might indeed open the door to negotiations making it possible for Cuban troops to be gradually withdrawn from Angola." But for Havana there is no question of "direct negotiations on that presence," and it thinks there is a great deal of "confusion" in the West on that question. "The size of the losses suffered by the Cuban troops in Angola is a particular myth," he said. "The struggle against Savimibi's National Union for the Total Independence of Angola is handled exclusively by the Luanda government."

Carlos Rafael Rodríguez tends to think that "Understanding" of Cuban relations with Africa is "weak" even in France. "It is essential for us that France should understand the motives for what some people call 'Cuba's African activities,' which are none other than a demonstration of solidarity aimed at defending the sovereignty of fraternal peoples.

MALMIERCA, POLISARIO'S ABDELAZIZ SIGN ACCORD

FL070050 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 May 82

[Text] A cooperation accord between the Foreign Ministries of Cuba and the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic was signed today for the 1982-1984 period.

Isidoro Malmierca, member of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee and foreign minister, and Mohammed Salem ould Salek, Saharan minister of information, today signed in Havana the document which will help expand bilateral relations.

The agreement provides for yearly meetings for consultation on international issues, which will be attended by officials of the two foreign ministries, and for the exchange of information concerning activities carried out by the two ministries at international forums.

Polisario Leader Ends Visit

FL062300 [Editorial Report] Havana Domestic Service in Spanish at 2225 GMT on 6 May is intercepted in progress carrying live coverage of farewell ceremony for Mohamed Abdelaziz, secretary general of the Polisario Front and president of the Revolutionary Command Council of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic, at Havana's Jose Martí International airport.

Abdelaziz is depicted as shaking hands with members of Cuba's Communist Party Politburo, Secretariat and Central Committee and of diplomats from various countries who have gathered at the Airport. Commander in Chief Fidel Castro is reportedly walking besides Mohamed Abdelaziz.

The band is playing revolutionary marches and the crowd is cheering as Abdelaziz and Castro raise their hands in greeting and begin walking toward the Cubana airlines IL-62M which will carry Abdelaziz on his way to Western Sahara.

Commander in Chief Fidel Castro is reported as holding a brief talk with the departing visitor who then climbs the ramp and waves to the crowd. As he enters the aircraft Castro is reported as walking toward the right wing of the airport where the dignitaries present are waiting before the airplane departs.

GRENADAGOVERNMENT PROTESTS 'OCEAN VENTURE' MANEUVERS

FLO11525 Bridgetown CANA in English 1449 1 May 82

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, 1 May, (CANA) -- Grenada's leftist government has protested to the United States over what it says is Washington's "total disregard for Grenada's "sovereignty". In a protest note, the People's revolutionary Government [PRG] of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop said the United States disregard for Grenada was manifest in the holding of the current "Ocean Venture 1982" military exercises by American forces in the eastern Caribbean.

The PRG, which has had cold relations with Washington since coming to power here in 1979 in a coup, also questioned the United States authority to declare a danger area within this country's economic zone, without consultation. "The declaration of a danger zone so close to Grenada", the protest note said, "must be viewed most seriously since it follows in the wake of the most vicious diplomatic, political and propaganda destabilisation and economic aggression against Grenada."

The PRG has also termed the holding of the exercises a total disregard for the aspirations of regional governments and peoples to have the Caribbean declared a zone of peace.

Use of Airspace Denounced

FLO31150 Bridgetown CANA in English 1853 GMT - May 82

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, 2 May (CANA) -- Prime Minister Maurice Bishop of Grenada has accused the United States of using Grenadian airspace to carry out some of its military exercises in the Caribbean area. Mr Bishop told a May Day rally here yesterday that Pearls Airport in Grenada received a message from neighbouring Trinidad and Tobago that the U.S. would be conducting military exercises 25 miles on either side of the air space by the regional air carrier, Liat.

He said that as a result of the message, the Trinidad authorities were no longer able to provide technical or electronic coverage to LIAT pilots using that airspace. As a result the pilots, rather than relying on the sophisticated equipment at Trinidad and Tobago's Piarco air traffic control tower were forced to use their eyes for 50 miles of the danger zone announced by the United States. The situation Mr Bishop said created a dangerous situation for people travelling on those planes. The United States he said could use Air Force over the Atlantic for its manoeuvres instead of "jeopardising" passengers using LIAT planes.

The prime minister also disclosed that on Friday his government had sent a "firm and sharp" protest to Washington making it clear that the U.S. should first seek permission to use Grenada's airspace. The question, Mr Bishop said, is one of getting permission and, "If no permission is given, please don't come up at all in our airspace."

Mr Bishop said that the Americans seem to believe that they have the right to do what they like, flying over Grenada's land, destroying the island's commercial traffic and taking their guns and battleships into the country's territorial waters. Said Mr Bishop, "Once again, we want to say to these Americans of Ronald Reagan that while they can fly their planes and bring their big ships and their places, can shoot at our people and our land, and while those ships can bomb our country, we want them to understand that unless they plan to bomb out the whole island, and to kill all of our people, whenever they land we will bust their backsides and send them back." The prime minister declared that it is a matter for thankfulness that Grenada had workers who have fought to defend the gains of the March 13 1979 revolution, who have crushed counter revolution, who are the eyes, ears and nose of the revolution.

FORBES BURNHAM EXPRESSES MISTRUST OF VENEZUELA

FL031214 Bridgetown CANA in English 1838 GMT 2 May 82

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, May 2, (CANA) -- Guyana's president, Forbes Burnham, has said that he does not attach any importance to Venezuela's assertion that it will not invade this South American republic to press a claim to the mineral-rich Essequibo region. Venezuela could easily use the argument that the Essequibo region comprising five-eighths of Guyana belonged to Caracas and that by sending soldiers there it was not invading the territory, but simply deploying troops on its land, Mr Burnham told a Labour Day rally yesterday.

The same argument was used by Argentina when it moved troops into the British-administered Falkland Islands last month, to back a territorial claim, Mr Burnham remarked. He expressed support for Britain in the dispute with Argentina.

Venezuela's hawkish support for Argentina, its violation of Guyana's airspace by several spy overflights this year, its bid to prevent Guyana getting financial aid from the World Bank, and its occupation of the Ankoko Islands belonging to Guyana all indicated that the word of the neighbouring country's rulers could not be trusted, Mr Burnham said.

"The Venezuelans are saying that traditionally they have never used their arms to invade any country", Mr Burnham remarked. "They can employ the legal argument which Argentina employed and say to move troops into the Essequibo is not to move troops into or against a foreign country, but merely to deploy troops in a part of their territory which is referred to in their constitution. If you want to keep land, all you have to do is to put that one in the constitution and you keep it.

He said Guyana's discovery of oil in the Essequibo region also made it of more importance to Venezuela. "There have been people who are advising the Venezuelan's to move now and occupy Guyana. They have told the Venezuelan Government that if they do not move now the Burnham clique will drill away Venezuelan oil from the Takutu Basin," he added.

The president told the rally that the Venezuelans have violated Guyana's air space over 20 times, and have an accurate map from the air of all the airstrips and landings in Essequibo and also of the Timehri International Airport. "We are grateful to the deputy foreign minister of Venezuela for his statement that Venezuela does not propose to use force. We are grateful also to his Venezuelan ambassador to Guyana, for similar statements, no doubt on instructions from home. Equally grateful are we to the Venezuelan ambassador in the Court of St James," Mr Burnham added.

Former German leader Adolf Hitler also had the habit of taking over different countries, despite his assurances to the contrary, Mr Burnham said. He added: "Are we to believe the Venezuelan declarations -- by a people who have occupied our half of Ankoko Islands? Are we to believe that they are so stupid and naive as to tell us "yes, we are coming? Comrades, if they told us when they are coming they are the most foolish people on earth, so we cannot afford to accept their declarations. What we have to do is to hope for the best and plan for the worst."

President Burnham referred to the Venezuelan action in seeking to prevent Guyana from obtaining financial assistance from the World Bank, for developing the Essequibo region and asked whether Guyana can accept the word of people who are seeking to "subvert our people in Essequibo. Can we accept the word of a people who are so arrogant that they will decide that a hydropower complex is not right for Guyana," he asked.

He pointed out that the very fact that oil was discovered "imposes the need, the necessity, for greater alertness," Mr Burnham said. "God knows also that even if our credit-worthiness goes up as a result of the discovery of oil, we could well use that credit to boost our economy," he added.

BOUTERSE VOICES RESERVATIONS ABOUT CBI

FL061648 Bridgetown CANA in English 1640 GMT 6 May 82

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, 6 May (CANA) -- Suriname's military leader Lieutenant Colonel Daysi Bouterse has expressed reservations about the proposed Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI), announced recently by the United States to offer assistance to the struggling economies of the Caribbean and Central America. Bouterse, who is now on holiday here, indicated that the plan would not lead to further integration in the region and was not based on the peoples' needs.

Under the programme, Washington proposed to make an additional 350 million dollars (U.S.) in economic assistance available to Caribbean and Central American states this financial year. It also provides for duty-free access for all Caribbean and Central American products except textiles and clothing imported by the U.S. during a 12-year period.

SUPPORT FOR ARGENTINA ON FALKLANDS ANNOUNCED

FL061727 Bridgetown CANA in English 1720 GMT 6 May 82

[Text] Paramaribo, Suriname, 6 May (CANA) -- The Suriname Government today said it has told Britain that it supports the claim of Argentina to the Falkland Islands and that it had informed secretary general of the United Nations, Javier Perez de Cuellar, of its position.

The non-resident British ambassador, Phillip Mallet, who is on a farewell visit to the country, was told that Suriname could not support Whitehall in the issue yesterday when he met the acting foreign minister, Dr Glen Sankatsingh, according to an official statement.

Argentina invaded the Falkland Islands last month to back its long-standing claim to the group of islands which had been administered by Britain. There has been a lull in fighting between the two countries after each reported losses of aircraft and ships.

Despite the support, Suriname officials have voiced concern about Argentina's use of force.

In Grenada, the head of the Suriname Army, Lieutenant Colonel Daysi Bouterse told newsmen that the military backed government regarded Argentina's territorial claim with some sympathy because of the colonisation of the Americas by Britain. But he conceded that the Suriname Government did not back Argentina's initial use of force.

Bouterse, on vacation in the small Caribbean island, said the situation involving Britain and Argentina was one in which Whitehall, supported by all the major Western countries, was confronting a Third World country.

He said that a Latin American government with any self-respect would "reconsider its position on the present-day situation."

The SURINAME NEWS AGENCY (SNA) yesterday published a report quoting Bouterse as saying that the United States' support for Britain has alienated it from the rest of the hemisphere.

Bouterse also charged that the U.S. stand was likely to lead to the disintegration of the inter-American system.